



In the name of Allah: the Compassionate, the Merciful

سورة القدر

AL-QADR

Name

The Surah has been so designated after the word *al-qadr* in the very first verse.

Period of Revelation

Whether it is a Makki or a Madani revelation is disputed. Abu Hayyan in *Al-Bahr al-Muhti* has made the claim that the majority of scholars regard it as a Madani Surah. Ali bin Ahmad al-Wahidi in his commentary says that this is the first Surah to be sent down in Madinah. Contrary to this, Al Mawardi says that according to the majority of scholars it is a Makki revelation, and the same view has Imam Suyuti expressed in *Al-Itqan*. Ibn Mardayah has cited Ibn Abbas, Ibn Az Zubair and Hadrat Aishah as saying that this Surah was revealed at Makkah. A study of the contents also shows that it should have been revealed at Makkah as we shall explain below.

Theme and Subject Matter

Its theme is to acquaint man with the value, worth and importance of the Quran. Its being placed just after Surah Al-Alaq in the arrangement of the Quran by itself explains that the Holy Book, the revelation of which began with the first five verses of Surah Al-Alaq. was sent down in a destiny making night. It is a glorious Book and its revelation for mankind is full of blessings.

At the outset, Allah says: "We have sent it down." That is, it is not a composition of Muhammad (upon whom be Allah's peace and blessing) himself, but We Ourselves have revealed it.

Then, it is said that "We sent it down in the Night of Destiny." Night of Destiny lies two meanings and both are implied here. First, that it is the night during which destinies are decided; or, in other words, it is not an ordinary night like the other nights, but a night in which destinies are made or marred. The revelation of this Book in this night is not merely the revelation of a book but an event

which will change the destiny of not only the Quraish, or of Arabia, but of, the entire world. The same thing has been said in Surah Ad-Dukhan for which please see Introduction to that Surah and E. N. 3 thereof. The other meaning is that this is, a night of unique honor, dignity and glory; so much so that it is better than a thousand months. Thus, the disbelievers of Makkah have been warned, as if to say: "You on account of your ignorance regard this Book, which Muhammad (upon whom be Allah's peace and blessings) has presented, as a calamity for yourselves and complain that a disaster has befallen you, whereas the night in which it was decreed to be sent down was such a blessed night that a task was accomplished in it for the well being of mankind, which had never been accomplished even during a thousand months of history. This also has been said in verse 3 of Ad-Dukhan in another way, which we have explained in the introduction to that Surah.

In conclusion, it has been stated that in this night the angels and Gabriel descend with every decree (which in verse 4 of Surah Ad- Dukhan has been described as arm-hakim: wise decree) by the leave of their Lord, and it is all peace from evening till morning; that is, there is no interference of evil in it, for all decrees of Allah are intended to promote good and not evil. So much so that even if a decision to destroy a nation is taken, it is taken for the sake of ultimate good, not evil.

The Holy Quran

The Power

Sura # 97 – 5 Verses - Makkah

سورة القدر

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ ﴿1﴾

In	فِي	Have sent it down	أَنْزَلْنَاهُ	Verily We	إِنَّا
		decree	الْقَدْرِ	(is) the night of	لَيْلَةِ

Translit	'Innā 'Anzalnāhu Fī Laylati Al-Qadri				
AhmedAli	بے شک ہم نے اس (قرآن) کو شب قدر میں اتارا ہے				
Jalandhry	ہم نے اس (قرآن) کو شب قدر میں نازل (کرنا شروع) کیا				
YusufAli	We have indeed revealed this (Message) in the night of Power:				
M.Khan	Verily, We have sent it (this Qur'ān) down in the night of Al-Qadr (Decree)				
Pickthal	Lo! We revealed it on the Night of Power.				
Shakir	Surely We revealed it on the grand night.				

وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ ﴿2﴾

What	مَا	Will make you know	أَدْرَاكَ	And what	وَمَا
		(of) Decree	الْقَدْرِ	The night	لَيْلَةُ

Translit	Wa Mā 'Adrāka Mā Laylatu Al-Qadri				
AhmedAli	اور آپ کو کیا معلوم کہ شب قدر کیا ہے				
Jalandhry	اور تمہیں کیا معلوم کہ شب قدر کیا ہے؟				
YusufAli	And what will explain to thee what the Night of Power is?				
M.Khan	And what will make you know what the night of Al-Qadr (Decree) is?				
Pickthal	Ah, what will convey unto thee what the Night of Power is!				
Shakir	And what will make you comprehend what the grand night				

لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ ﴿3﴾

(is) better	خَيْرٌ	(of) Decree	الْقَدْرِ	The night	لَيْلَةُ
months	شَهْرٍ	A thousand	أَلْفِ	Than	مِنْ

Translit	Laylatu Al-Qadri <i>Khayrun Min 'Alfi Shahrin</i>				
AhmedAli	شب قدر ہزار مہینوں سے بہتر ہے				
Jalandhry	شب قدر ہزار مہینے سے بہتر ہے				
YusufAli	The Night of Power is better than a thousand Months.				
M.Khan	The night of Al-Qadr (Decree) is better than a thousand months (i.e. worshipping Allāh in that night is better				

The Holy Quran

The Power

Sura # 97 – 5 Verses - Makkah

سورة القدر

	than worshipping Him a thousand months, i.e. 83 years and 4 months)
Pickthal	The Night of Power is better than a thousand months.
Shakir	The grand night is better than a thousand months.

تَنْزِلُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ ﴿٤﴾

And the Spirit (Gabriel)	وَالرُّوحُ	The angels	الْمَلَائِكَةُ	Descend	تَنْزِلُ
(of) their Lord	رَبِّهِمْ	By permission	بِإِذْنِ	Therein	فِيهَا
decrees	أَمْرٍ	All	كُلِّ	With	مِنْ

Translit	<i>Tanazzalu Al-Malā'ikatu Wa Ar-Rūhu Fīhā Bi'idhni Rabbihim Min Kulli 'Amrin</i>
AhmedAli	اس میں فرشتے اور روح نازل ہوتے ہیں اپنے رب کے حکم سے ہر کام پر
Jalandhry	اس میں روح (الامین) اور فرشتے ہر کام کے (انتظام کے) لیے اپنے پروردگار کے حکم سے اترتے ہیں
YusufAli	Therein come down the angels and the Spirit by Allah's permission, on every errand:
M.Khan	Therein descend the angels and the Rūh [Jibril (Gabriel)] by Allāh's Permission with all Decrees,
Pickthal	The angels and the Spirit descend therein, by the permission of their Lord, with all decrees.
Shakir	The angels and Gibreel descend in it by the permission of their Lord for every affair,

سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّى مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ ﴿٥﴾

Until	حَتَّى	(it) is	هِيَ	(there is) peace	سَلَامٌ
		(of) dawn	الْفَجْرِ	The appearance	مَطْلَعِ

Translit	<i>Salāmun Hiya Ḥattā Maṭla'ī Al-Fajri</i>
AhmedAli	وہ صبح روشن ہونے تک سلامتی کی رات ہے
Jalandhry	یہ (رات) طلوع صبح تک (امان اور) سلامتی ہے
YusufAli	Peace!... This until the rise of Morn!
M.Khan	(All that night), there is Peace (and Goodness from Allāh to His believing slaves) until the appearance of dawn.
Pickthal	(The night is) Peace until the rising of the dawn.
Shakir	Peace! it is till the break of the morning.